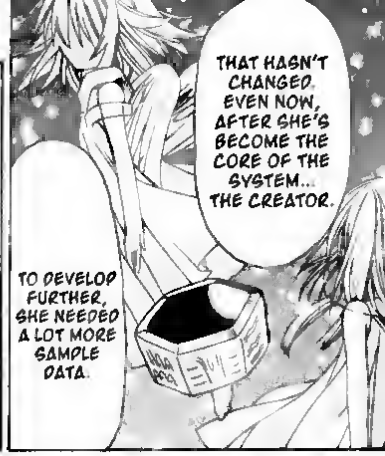
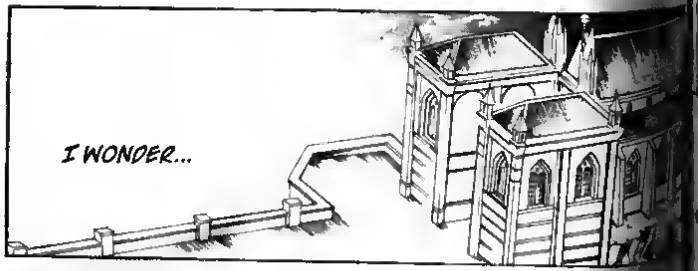
...AND...
.. BY INTER-ACTING WITH PEOPLE ..
BY TALKING TO PEOPLE...

SO IT WAS ALL PART OF KEI'S PLAN. WHAT DID YOU THINK IT WAS--JUST A PLAY TEST?
THIS EVENT--GIVING OUT THE .HACK//LIMITED EDITION CHARACTERS--WAS ALL PART OF THAT PROCESS


THAT HASN'T CHANGED. EVEN NOW, AFTER SHE'S BECOME THE CORE OF THE SYSTEM... THE CREATOR.
TO DEVELOP FURTHER, SHE NEEDED A LOT MORE SAMPLE DATA.

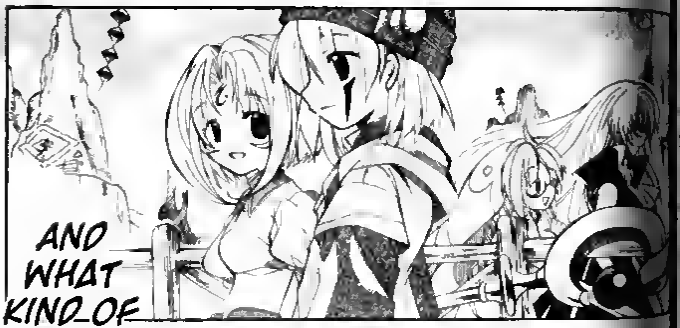
. AURA WAS JUST WORRIED ABOUT HOW IT'D ALL TURN OUT. (^o^)
NN
PERHAPS... ☆

...SHE ...CONTINUES TO DEVELOP
IT'S NOT ALL THAT DIFFERENT FROM US HUMANS.

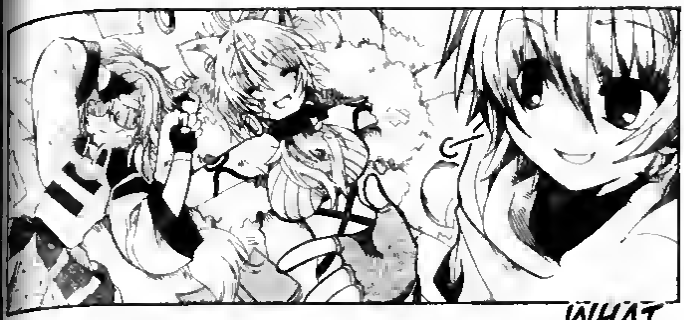

I WONDER...

.....
I SEE
...BECOMING A MOTHER.
IT'S A BIG STEP

Managing Editor // HIROSHI MATSUYAMA
(Cyber Connect 2)

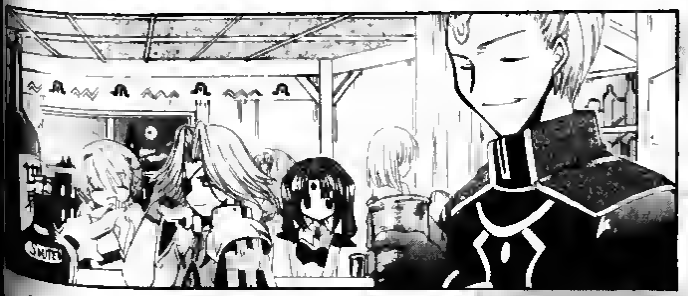


DAISUKE UCHIYAMA
(Bandai, Video Game Department)



Manga // REI IZUMI

Story // TATSUYA HAMAZAKI



SUBJECT: LEGEND OF THE TWILIGHT
SENDER: W. B. YEATES

THE HERO OF THE BRACELET HAS ARRIVED.

WITH THE PROTECTION FROM THE GODDESS OF DAWN
BRINGING ALONG THE DAUGHTER WITH THE NAME OF THE WESTERN WIND.

JUST LIKE THE HERO OF THE LEGEND
WHO SEIZED THE LIGHT OF TWILIGHT IN THE PAST.

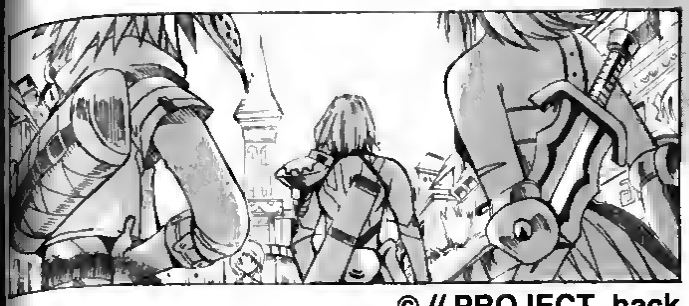
THE WILL OF 20 MILLION CONTINUES TO TALK TO THE WORLD TODAY
THE WORDS OF 20 MILLION WILL TURN THE WHEEL OF THE GODDESS' CARRIAGE TOMORROW

THE WORLD WILL TURN
THE WORLD WILL TURN

...THROUGH OUR OWN EXPERIENCE

THAT IS THE WORLD.

THAT'S WHY...



© // PROJECT .hack

THAT'S SOMETHING WE WILL HAVE TO FIND OUT...

A NEW MESSAGE POSTED TO THE MESSAGE BOARD... HUH

HM

THIS MESSAGE...

.....

SUBJECT: LEGEND OF THE TWILIGHT
SENDER: W. B. YEATS

...THE WORLD DOESN'T NEED AN ENDING.

.hack//LEGEND OF THE TWILIGHT

Thank you for reading
Never End...

It's the largest online game around.
The World...has 20 million players.
WHO, ME?
Online gaming... not have an o... like regular R... and there are ... different ways t... Tabo Miroille, he...
EVERYONE CALLS ME...
...A RARE HUNTER!
...TRYING TO COLLECT AS MANY ITEMS AS POSSIBLE!
WHAT I LOVE ABOUT THE GAME IS...
WHEN I HEAR SOMETHING IS RARE, I GET SO EXCITED!!

see ya!

.hack//Rare Hunter
HERE COMES MIREILLE-CHAN!
WHO GOT A RARE ITEM? ME, ME, ME! ♫
RARE! ♪
RARE! ♪
NYA-HAAAN! ♪
LA!
LA!
I SO WANTED TO GET THIS GOLDEN GRUNTY! ANOTHER ITEM IS ADDED TO MIREILLE-CHAN'S COLLECTION ♪
LA!
ぺかっ
Sniff
Sniff
ざわ
ざわ
NOT ONLY THAT!
I SMELL IT! I DO!! THE SMELL OF RARENESS!!
Sniff
Sniff
IT'S THE SMELL OF A SUPER-DUPER-ULTRA-RARE ITEM!!

HEY, YOU!
HOW DID YOU GET A HOLD OF THOSE WINGS?
I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN THEM BEFORE!
SUPER-DUPER RARE ITEM!!
HUH?!
HEY!
WHOA!
WHAT THE-?!
FWUMP
OUCH!
UGH
H-HEY! WH-WHAT ARE Y-YOU...
WH-WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?! WHY'D YOU JUMP ME?!

!!
A-ARE THOSE..
..WINGS?!
ONLY THE LEGENDARY PLAYERS WHO CLEARED "THE ONE SIN" EVENT HAVE THOSE!
THOSE WINGS...
ARE THEY REAL?
PRETTY!

LOOK!
YOU LOOK GOOD IN THEM!
C'MON C'MON!
I'M WARNING YOU!
PIP!
TALK
TRA
PRE
PIP!
B-BUT, YOU SURE...? MEAN IT?
IT'S OKAY. I LIKE YOU, MIREILLE. IF YOU WANT, I CAN GIVE YOU A LOT MORE RARE ITEMS!
B-BUT, I CAN'T JUST TAKE THEM FROM YOU FOR FREE!
HOW ABOUT MY SPECIAL GOLDEN GRUNTY IN RETURN?
NAH. NOT INTER-ESTED.
DENIED
YOU SEE...
I CAN MAKE PRETTY MUCH ANYTHING I WANT!

WAAAH.. IT'S GOOO SOFT.
I'M SO JEALOUS!
I WANT IT! I WANT IT!
.....
I-I LOST it!
AH HA HA HA!
WHAT A FUNNY GIRL YOU ARE!
. I'M LUKE.
AND YOU ARE...?
I'M SO SORRY MY NAME'S MIREILLE!
please tell me your name
EH?!
EH?!
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
YUP. HERE, TAKE 'EM.
IT'S OKAY.
I'LL GIVE YOU THESE WINGS, MIREILLE.

...
CHEATING.
THAT'S...
HEY, MIREILLE?!
BYE-BYE!
IT'S A GREAT DISHONOR FOR A RARE HUNTER TO KNOWINGLY ACCEPT A CHEAT ITEM
HOWEVER I OBTAINED IT, THE DATA'S THE SAME, RIGHT?
BUT, IT'S JUST GAME DATA, ISN'T IT?
NOPE
YUP. I MADE 'EM!
THEY'RE A CHEAT ITEM?!
NO WAY.
WHAT? LUKE ARE YOU WITH CC CORP?
EH--- THEN THESE WINGS...?
SO FUNNY!
HEE HEE
ACTUALLY COMPLETING THOSE DUMB EVENTS IS FOR SUCKERS. WHY WASTE ALL THAT TIME WHEN YOU CAN MAKE YOUR OWN PRIZES?
THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE AWARD FROM SOME "THE ONE SIN" EVENT, RIGHT? I PROGRAMMED THEM BASED ON THE RUMORS
THAT DUNGEON'S REALLY TOUGH! YOU COULD GET HURT, MIREILLE!!
WHAT? FROM THIS SERVER?
YEAH, BUT YOU CAN'T GET THE BEST RARES WITHOUT TAKING SOME RISKS!
I'M ON MY WAY TO THE DUNGEON RIGHT NOW.
JEEZ! WILL YOU STOP FOLLOWING ME?!
WHAT?
WHY?
HE JUST DOESN'T GET IT
NOT INTERESTED
HEY!
I CAN MAKE LOTS MORE RARE ITEMS!! LIKE--
WHAT? DIDN'T YOU WANT THEM?
HUH?
WH ...?
UH-UH NOT ON YOUR LIFE
I DON'T WANT 'EM.
SO THAT'S IT.

VAK DON: LEVEL 3 FIRE ATTACK SPELL.

NOT REALLY...
DON'T WORRY. THIS PLACE DOESN'T LOOK ALL THAT DEEP. I CAN PROBABLY MANAGE.
LOOK. I APPRECIATE THE THOUGHT, BUT...
YOU REALLY DON'T GET IT
I GOT IT! IF YOU DON'T WANT ME TO GIVE IT YOU, I CAN LEND YOU AN INCREDIBLY STRONG ITEM!!

G-
GIGA
DON
GIGAN DON: LEVEL 2 EARTH ATTACK SPELL.
THANKS, LUKE!!
HUFF
WHEEZE
HUFF...
WHO
DIDN'T
THE
AN
RIGHT
HIND
THAT
CLO
.....
HUFF
AH...
IT'S A LOT OF WORK.
WE'RE LUCKY TO BE ALIVE, BUT
NYA HAHA!!
VAG DON!!
GIGAN DON!
M-MIREILLE
GO
LE
GO
AHE
I DON'T GET IT.
.....
IT'S JUST A GAME.
IT'S SO BORING HAVING TO WASTE ALL YOUR TIME LEVELING UP LIKE THIS.
THE EASIER THE BETTER, THAT'S WHAT I SAY.
THAT WAY, I NEVER HAVE TO BE ALONE.
AND PEOPLE ALWAYS TREAT ME BETTER WHEN I CARRY AROUND RARE ITEMS.
?
MIREILLE!!
!
PHEW!
IS MIREILLE DIFFERENT?

.....
にゃぱっ
I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOUR HELP, LUKE!!
...I'M HAPPY FOR YOU MIREILLE
THANKS SO MUCH!
THANKS!!
...IT'S REALLY A LOT OF FUN.
SEE YOU LATER!
BUT...
THE WAY MIREILLE PLAYS IS SO EXHAUSTING.
Here it's my member address.
MIREILLE CALLS HERSELF A RARE HUNTER
NYA HA! ☆
JEEZ, MIREILLE, YOU BITE OFF MORE THAN A PLAYER OF YOUR LEVEL CAN CHEW.
wheeze
STATUE OF THE ITEM MASTER!
ぽんぽか
ぽーん
WE MADE IT!!
BUT WE HAD FUN, DIDN'T WE? ☆
I'VE GOT A BUNCH OF THOSE ALREADY.
IS THAT ALL?
LOOK, LOOK! THE STAFF OF TIMIDITY! A RARE ITEM!!
Rare
I DID IT!
WOW!
SHE'S RIGHT I'VE NEVER BEEN INTO THE GAME LIKE THIS BEFORE MY HANDS ARE ALL SWEATY FROM CLUTCHING THE CONTROLLER!

REFLECTIONS IN THE AZURE SKY
Joining a big corporation can't be that bad, right?
I decided to join the CC Corp
MY CHARACTER IS NAMED REKI. I HOPE I CAN BE OF SERVICE.
BALMANG-SAN. MY NAME IS FUJIO. I'VE BEEN ASSIGNED TO ASSIST YOU.
DO YOU LIKE THE WORLD?
Y-
YES, SIR?
So casual already!
REKI.
IN MY CASE, REKI...
YES?
...THE WORLD.
I LOVE

P1
MY INVENTORY IS ALL CLEARED OUT.
ONLY ITEMS I KEPT ARE MY NOVICE GEAR AND A FEW HEALING POTIONS
THAT'S ALL I NEED.
ALL RIGHT! I'M GONNA TRY BEING—
—A RARE HUNTER!
Omake = Bonus
EEK!
WHAT IS THAT??
THAT'S UNIQUE
Take good care of it, kay?! I'll want it back!
its face mean.
OH! THX-OESU!!
YEY!
It's super rare.
HOTARU-CCHI, YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH GEAR, DO YOU?
YOU CAN BORROW THIS
—END—

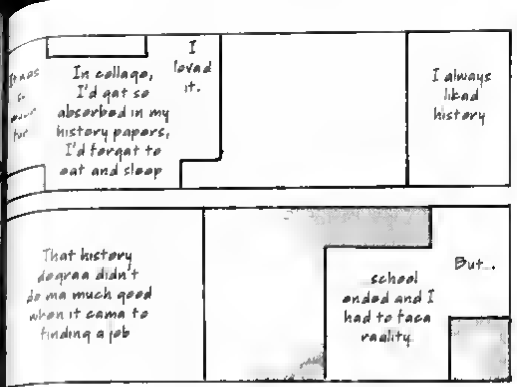
It just goes to show that you can get used to anything.
YAWN
I'M SLEEPY
...a few years have already gone by since.
BAL.
!
BAL-MUNG-SAN?
BAL-MUNG-SAN, ARE YOU AROUND?
I wonder if this is what happens when your hobby becomes your job
OH, SIR..
YOU ALWAYS TRY TOO HARD.
He often takes on more than he can handle (And, I'm the one who has to clean up after his mess.)
HE FELL ASLEEP...
HE FELL ASLEEP AT HIS DESK AGAIN.
SHOULD I DOODLE ON HIS FACE?
Maybe I'll write "slut" on him like in ultimate puzzles

I'M COUNTING ON YOU!!
I AM BALMUNG OF THE AZURE SKY LET'S PROTECT THIS WORLD TOGETHER!
AH!
I had no problem with the company itself, but...

REFLECTIONS IN THE AZURE SKY

GOOD MORNING
ER.. YEAH SORRY
And please don't turn off on me like that
NEW ASSIGNMENTS ARE PILING UP, AND YOU'RE ALREADY LATE ON LAST WEEKS'!
THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO SLEEP
REKI, IT'S YOU.
OH..
OH?

WHY IS HE SO FULL OF ENERGY ALL OF A SUDDEN ?
What's so incredible about him...
から?
..is how sincere he is. All that nonsense he just said-- he totally believes it!
THE USERS ARE WAITING WITH BATED BREATH TO SEE WHAT I COME UP WITH NEXT!
I'VE GOTTA WORK HARDER FOR "THE WORLD" I LOVE!!


In college, I'd get so absorbed in my history papers, I'd forget to eat and sleep
I loved it.
I always liked history
That history degree didn't do me much good when it came to finding a job
school ended and I had to face reality
But..

So...

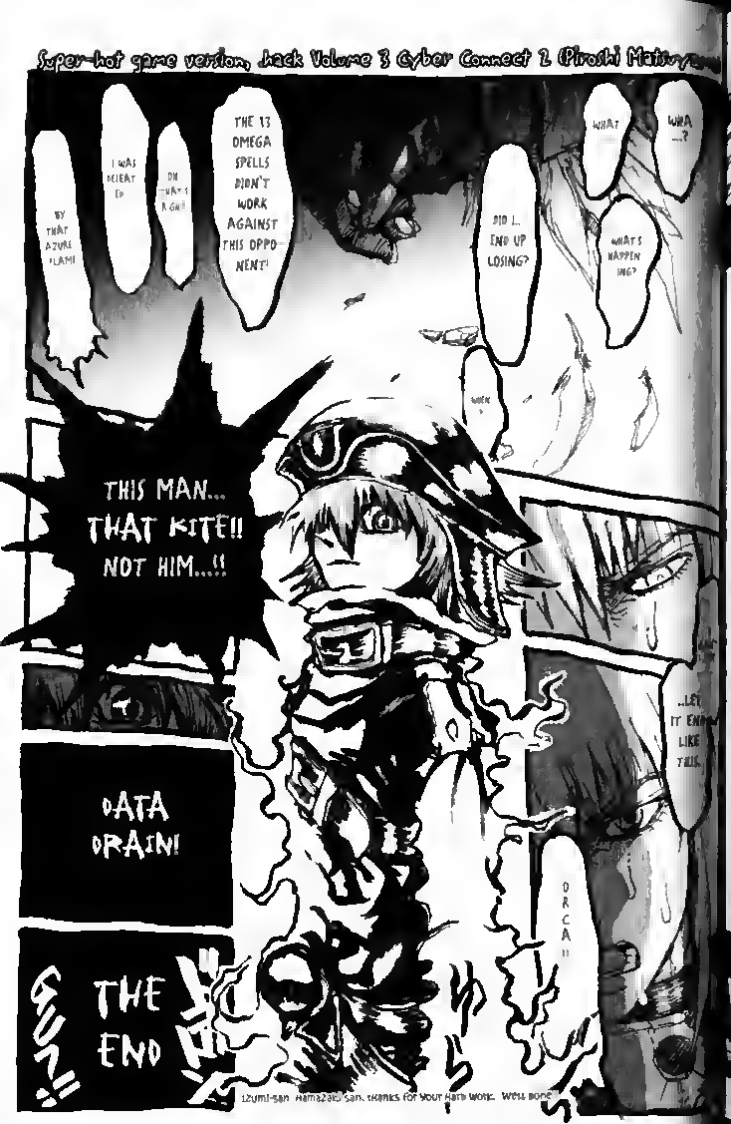
I hope it wasn't completely useless

I don't like to think it was all a waste of time

When I looked up into the sky, it didn't look like just a bunch of pixels. It was pure azure, and even though it was night in the real world, here it was the brightest sky I'd ever seen.

PLEASE COME OUT.
I KNOW YOU'RE THERE.
BAL-MUNG-GAN
When it comes down to it, I really d... understa... Balmung... san...
...and I don't want to under-stand him either.

But...
...after all is said and done...
"DO YOU LIKE THE WORLD?"
I guess that makes me the bigger fool for following him.
HM?
MORE THAN I DID WHEN I FIRST JOINED THE COMPANY.
WELL, ALL RIGHT.
.....



Somehow I'm better at tracking down Balmung-san...
...than anyone else
HEY! NO NEED TO TALK TO ME LIKE I'M A HOLED-UP CRIMINAL
NOW WILL YOU PLEASE GET BACK TO WORK?

I guess this job fits me after all!

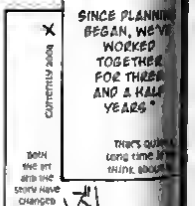
ONII-CHAN ♡…
ONII-CHAN ♡
UGH! STOP MIMICKING MY VOICE AND SAYING WEIRD THINGS
RIGHT, A LITTLE SISTER SHOULD BE A FEMALE
I'm still missing something
HMM STILL NOT ENOUGH
ONII-CHAN ♡
YOUR EYES GIVE IT AWAY!
HMPH BUT I DIDN'T EVEN SAY ANYTHING
PLEASE STOP FOCUSING ON STUPID THINGS AND GET BACK TO WORK!
I have no opinion on the matter!
What do you think, Reiji?
I JUST DON'T GET WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT A YOUNGER SISTER
HM…
FORGET IT, AND PLEASE GET STARTED WITH THE WORK
LITTLE SIS-TER
HMM…
LITTLE BRO-THERS ?
IS RESEARCH-ING WHAT HE REALLY LIKES TO DO?

Record of Reiizumi's visit to CC2

Hello there! I'm Izumi, and I'm the one that drew "Hack."
Wow!
It's really done.
In fact, we went to FUKUOKA! The reason is obvious!!
Go on to an Eat to Death Tour!
No way!
CC2 Record of the Visit.
Cover Connect
There are lots of pieces of figures right here.
Good job, President Maeda.
A BABY WAS THERE!!!
Yes, bright!
A baby inside a game company... It shows what a good environment it is for people to work there.
Everyone at CC2 thank you so much! Please produce lots of great games!! It really is a nice company with a good atmosphere.
...Whoa. How cute! ♥(3)
BTW, what's in the hot pot?
It has this small creature in it

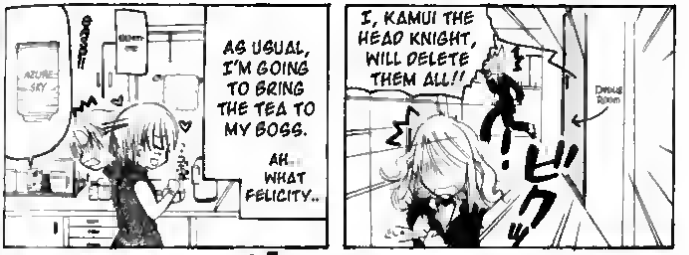
A Long Sigh @ Comix

Because of that, we had to rewrite the original story
Hellish planning sessions
In the middle of the project, the decision was made to extend the series
The anime version was not completed yet, and anime hasn't even begun
I joined the project without knowing what I was getting into.


SINCE PLANNING BEGAN, WE'VE WORKED TOGETHER FOR THREE AND A HALF YEARS.
That's quite a long time to think about!
Currently Book
Both the art and the story have changed between the first and last volumes. It's almost as if we're altogether different manga!
A LOT HAS HAPPENED SINCE WE STARTED THIS JOURNEY
HEART

And, the manga series continued to get extended, on and on
It wouldn't end...
Quite a mess to turn out to be a problem. I liked the Tanabata episode the most. It was a lot of fun to watch!
The anime version is so cute! I love it!
What a pleasant surprise!
The manga was made into an anime!
I love to go to bonsai and fireworks and autumn mountain, homework, the sound of my pencil, under a blanket.

Let's Go Cyber Connect Corporation
I'M ONE OF THE OFFICE LADIES WORKING FOR CC CORP
My favorite phrase is "one Good Deed a day"
HELLO! I'M ASAKO SAITO.
Once upon a time, in the hallway of the real CC Corp
EMPLOYEE
EMPLOYEE

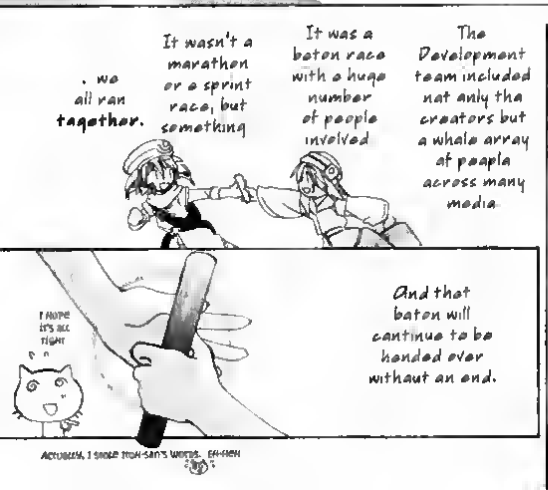

AS USUAL, I'M GOING TO BRING THE TEA TO MY BOSS.
AH... WHAT FELICITY..
AZURE SKY
I, KAMUI THE HEAD KNIGHT, WILL DELETE THEM ALL!!
DRAGE Room

THIS IS fiction!

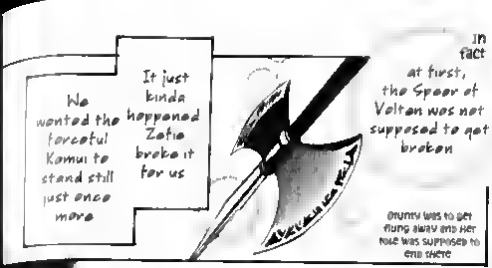
THIS IS fiction!

I thought it was worth all the hard work to make this story...
The World was able to recapture the sense of wonder that it first had
This Future came to pass because Tsukasa and Kite did their best.

because with "Twilight," we finally got a real happy ending.


...we all ran together.
It wasn't a marathon or a sprint race, but something
It was a baton race with a huge number of people involved
The Development team included not only the creators but a whole array of people across many media
I hope it's all right
And that baton will continue to be handed over without an end.

Actually, I stole Itou-san's words. Eh-hehn


We wanted the forceful Kamui to stand still just once more
It just kinda happened Zatie broke it for us
In fact at first, the Spear of Veltan was not supposed to get broken
Grunty was to get flung away and her role was supposed to end there

But after we broke the spear, it was hard to keep the action going
Although she's not a popular character I like her. I hope she'll find happiness someday.
Her real name is Saki Shibahama chan
Anyhow, I have no regrets

In addition...
EXTENDED BATTLE!
even though it was already extended, I still felt like adding more of Kamui and Salmuns.
ADD on!
I'm dying!!

Stuff came up! I'll get it done I promise!
I'm sorry
I'll jump on the earliest train to pick up the manuscript if I have to!
Thank you for overlooking my selfishness! Hamazaki-san, my staff, the people at Compile, Bandai and Mediaworks Matsuyamaten

I'm really happy that I could draw through the end

This manga was the first to usher in the whole .hack franchise and the very last to end
And then
games <freezers>
anime (//Sign) <rest>
There are also the novels, Zero and Albireo
"Twilight" is the story of the future (well, now that it's done it's all the past)

End of the volume omake

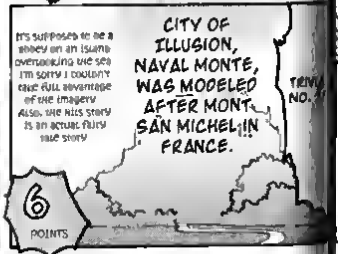
A page with a title I might regret later on

Twilight Trivia

Mr Michelle grunnies don't have buttons. It's alive, isn't it? It's alive! Alive!
When I press the button on this grunnie, instead of "grunnie" it says "bunnies"

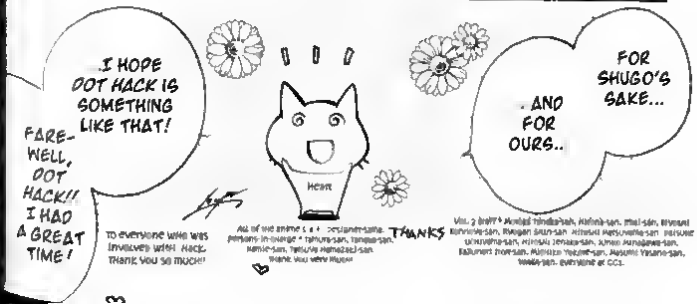
To top it off, he used to have a long milk chin hair. A prince type
IN THE EARLIEST DRAFTS, KAMUI WAS A MAN!
TRIVIA NO.
3 POINTS
It feels like a trend for another manga or something.

We picked Reki and Magi as one time we came up with names for our characters. We needed someone fashion conscious, so Reki, we decided to use him.
BOTH REKI AND MAGI WERE NOT IN THE ORIGINAL DRAFT
TRIVIA NO. 5!
10 POINTS
They're both male PCs. I came up with the name Reki and Hamazaki-san came up with Magi.


It's supposed to be a abbey on an island overlooking the sea. I'm sorry I couldn't take full advantage of the imagery. Also, the kids' story is an actual fairy tale story
CITY OF ILLUSION, NAVAL MONTE, WAS MODELED AFTER MONT-SAN MICHEL!! IN FRANCE.
TRIVIA NO. 2
6 POINTS

THE HAIRSTYLE OF THE BAD-DATA GIRL IS MODELED AFTER WOODER LOOPER'S!!
It's been a while since we've heard that name
TRIVIA NO.
That's her style.

SHUGO ARE YOU GOING AWAY ALREADY?
It was the last day of drawing
Sad times for Izumi-san...
THIS IS THE LAST TIME I'LL EVER DRAW SHUGO...


I HOPE .hack// IS SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
FAREWELL, .hack//! I HAD A GREAT TIME!
AND FOR OURS..
FOR SHUGO'S SAKE...
Hime
THANKS
To everyone who was involved with Hack. Thank you so much!!
All of the anime staff, Tokyopop-san, Yamada-san, Kamie-san, Tatsuya Hamazaki-san
Thank you very much!
Vol. 2 Staff: Mariko Tanaka-san, Akiko-san, Mai-san, Kiyomi Kuroiwa-san, Megan Sano-san, Atsushi Matsumoto-san, Natsuko Umemura-san, Hiroshi Tamura-san, Junko Kanagawa-san, Katsumi Inoh-san, Mutsuko Yazawa-san, Asami Yasuno-san, Yuka-san, everyone at CCC.

Shank!! The Rate Story

"SHANK" IS THE PROTA-GONIST.
HE'S A ROBBER BY TRADE...
..BUT WHAT HE STEALS IS NO ORDINARY TREASURE.
HMM MAYBE.
IS HE LIKE A RARE HUNTER?
WHAT HE STEALS ARE "SECRETS." HE STEALS SECRETS REGARDING IMMORTALITY, LEFT BEHIND BY A POWERFUL WIZARD.
HOWEVER, THE WORLD SHANK LIVES IN FORBIDS MAGIC!!
ANYTHING TO DO WITH MAGIC IS CONSIDER-ED TABOO!!

"SHANK!! THE RATE STORY"!
Sorry! It's not available in English now
TODAY WE'RE HERE TO INTRO-DUCE A NEW NOVEL TO OUR JAPANESE READ-ERS!

FROM THE KADOKAWA SNEAKER BUNKO

AVAILABLE NOW WITH GREAT POPULAR-ITY!!

WRITTEN BY YOSHINOBU AKITA
ILLUSTRATED BY EBI IZUMI

TO TOP IT OFF --!!
A MOUSTACHE ?
LIAR.
AMAZING!!
OOH!!
EVERYONE WHO PURCHASES "SHANK" NOW WILL RECEIVE THIS SPECIAL FUTON SLIP CASE!!
THAT'S THE SAME AS SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE.
WHAT A GREAT DEAL!
OOH!!
SHANK
WELL, ONE VOLUME COSTS 533 YEN, BUT IF YOU BUY TWO VOLUMES, IT'S ONLY 1,066 YEN!!
NO FUTON ?
THAT'S IT!! "SHANK!! THE RATE STORY" AVAILABLE NOW IN JAPAN ONLY! ♡
WHO..??
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE
HOW DO YOU DO?
I'M THE PROTAGONIST
NICE TO MEET YOU!
THEY USED THE WRONG ACTORS FOR THIS AD
SHE'S REALLY GOOD AT THIS SORT OF THING
I'M IMPRESSED, MIREILLE!
SHE'S SO LOVELY.
IT'S WRITTEN BY THE GREAT MASTER, YOSHINOBU AKITA
SO OF COURSE IT'S PACKED TO THE GILLS WITH EXCITEMENT!
THERE'S LAUGHTER!!
THERE'S TEARS!!
THERE'S A MOUSTACHE!
ONCE "SHANK" ENCOUNTERS THE HEROINE OF THE STORY
...HE'S FACED WITH MANY MYSTERIES!!

.hack//UNPLUGGED